RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker protempore (Mr. BOOZMAN) at noon.

PRAYER

The Reverend Neil D. Smith, Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, from whom all blessings flow and to whom all praise belongs, acknowledging both our dependence upon You and our accountability to You, we ask Your blessings upon this House and all our Nation's leaders as they carry out their duties under Your sovereign rule.

Grant to the Members of this body both the wisdom to know what is right in Your eyes and the resolve to do it.

Lead them in the paths of righteousness and truth for Your name's sake, so that they may serve Your purposes in this generation.

May Your grace abound to them in both their personal and public lives so that in all things, at all times, having all that they need, they may abound in every good work.

This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is before all things and in whom all things hold together.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PENCE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PRIVATE CALENDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is Private Calendar day. The Clerk will call the first individual bill on the Private Calendar.

NANCY B. WILSON

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 392) for the relief of Nancy B. Wilson.

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND NEIL D. SMITH

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. Watts), the conference chairman, it is my honor today to welcome Reverend Neil Smith to this Chamber, the senior pastor of Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Kingstowne, Virginia, a midsized church in the Evangelical Presbyterian denomination in northern Virginia. Faith Church is the church home to numerous congressional staffers, and its ministry is felt daily here on Capitol Hill.

Reverend Smith has spearheaded his church's effort toward outreach, both in the local community and around the world, with a missions presence. He is also very active in his growing denomination, attending session and general assembly meetings around the country. Last year he served as moderator of the Presbytery of the East of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Smith was born and raised in western Pennsylvania, graduated with highest honors and a BA degree from Grove City College in Pennsylvania in 1977. In 1983, he graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with an M.Div. degree, again with highest honors, and was ordained as a Presbyterian minister. From 1983 to 1997, he served in churches in Downingtown and Altoona, Pennsylvania. Since mid-1997, he has been senior pastor at Faith Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

He and his wife Mary Sue, who joins him here today, have just celebrated 25 years of matrimony. They have three children: daughter, Erin, 19, a sophomore at Grove City College in Pennsylvania; daughter Lindsay, who is a junior at West Springfield High School in Virginia, turned 16 today; and a very special boy, Nathan, 10 years old, a fifth-grader at my son's school here in Springfield, Virginia. They reside in Springfield, and, Mr. Speaker, we join in welcoming Reverend Smith and his wonderful family to this Chamber on this occasion.

TIME TO PASS A RESPONSIBLE BUDGET

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today is the very first day of the new fiscal year, and yet the government's budget is not in order. The Senate has not even passed a budget, while the House, we continue to fight all appropriation bills, to keep all appropriation bills in line with the President's responsible budget request.

All the while political rhetoric continues to fly in the face of the real facts. Most recently I heard the troubling rumor that somehow we are trying to cut the education budget. Nothing, Mr. Speaker, could be further from the truth.

In fact, under Republican leadership in the House, Federal funding for education has more than doubled over the past 6 years. Since 1998, the overall education budget will have increased by nearly 70 percent. The President's budget for the Department of Education for fiscal year 2003 is \$1.8 billion more than last year.

Mr. Speaker, these are the facts. In spite of the twin challenges of war and economic recovery, House Republicans remain committed and dedicated to funding our priorities. It is time others joined in our efforts in this regard.

CONGRATULATING RICOH ELECTRONICS ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Orange County-based Ricoh Electronics, Incorporated, for their exceptional environmental practices. Since 1997, Ricoh Electronics has been dedicated to establishing a progressive environmental management system within their company.

In 1999, 2000, 2001, they were awarded for their outstanding waste reduction efforts by the California Waste Management Board. In 2001, all Ricoh facilities were certified Zero Waste to Landfill by eliminating all land disposal of waste from their office areas and manufacturing units.

They have also been accepted into the EPA's premier environmental recognition program, the National Performance Track, by promoting sound environmental management, continuous environmental improvement, public outreach and sustained environmental compliance.

Once again, I commend Ricoh Electronics on being an excellent example of how today's corporations can increase protection of public health and the environment in the workplace.

U.N. CREDIBILITY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, tyrants speak only one language, and that is the language of raw power. Neville Chamberlain learned that the hard way